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VIDELA, MARTINEZ DE HOZ HOLD INTENSIVE TALKS

PY201330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpts] Mar del Plata, Feb 20 (NA)--The hermit-like atmosphere surrounding the meeting which Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla held at Chapdamalal with Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz has raised the level of speculation about the immediate future of the government's economic policy.

Videla, who is spending his vacations in the tourist colony of Chapdamalal, located a few kilometers from Mar del Plata, held an extensive meeting with Martinez de Hoz less than 24 hours after the minister's return from South Africa. But despite the secluded atmosphere surrounding the meeting, the mere fact that it took place basically confirmed the many rumors which have begun circulating in the last few days regarding the subject.

The complete lack of information on the dialog between Videla and Martinez de Hoz only increased the speculation of the past few days regarding the future of the economic plan and of those who implement it.

Army Commander Roberto Viola and Navy Commander Armando Lambruschini returned yesterday to Buenos Aires after spending a few days vacationing in Chapdamalal. The return to Buenos Aires of the commanders stirred new rumors about an alleged meeting of the military junta with the president and the economy minister. This alleged meeting has been canceled for the time being, at least while Martinez de Hoz is discussing the situation with his advisers. Shortly after his arrival yesterday afternoon, the economy minister requested a briefing with Guillermo Klein, secretary of economic coordination and planning, and other economic advisers.

Talks Described as Routine

PY201833 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1505 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Feb (NA)--Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz reasserted today that the economic plan which he announced at the end of 1978 will continue to be enforced without any variations. He expressed his surprise at the speculation created in Argentina over the cost of living increase in January [words indistinct] noting that this figure was the result of the "high price fever" registered in the last months of 1978. He added that he already knew what the January inflation rate was before he began his vacation on 29 January and that President Jorge Videla was aware of it.

Martinez de Hoz held an exclusive interview with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS today in the military sector of the metropolitan airport. In his talk with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the economy minister did not specify whether he had been summoned yesterday by President Videla to hold a meeting but he said that it was "natural" and "useful" upon resuming his duties "to hold a meeting with the president to discuss the development of the economic process."

He added that these kinds of meetings "are perfectly normal and they should be viewed as such." He noted that the "speculation" he was witnessing "was completely out of place." Martinez de Hoz has just returned from South Africa, where he was on a safari hunting big game for more than 20 days.

REACTION TO BRAZIL'S RELEASE OF CORPUS, ITAIPU DOCUMENTS NOTED

PY210201 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0030 GMT 21 Feb 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Feb (TELAM)--Sources from the Argentine Foreign Ministry today disclosed some concepts and reactions with regard to Brazilian statements which maintained that Brazil had advised our country of its decision to disclose documents concerning the Corpus and Itaipu problem. It was reported in this regard that the Brazilian memorandum was delivered Monday morning, 19 February, by Brazilian Ambassador Garcia de Souza, who at that time reported the decision to reveal prior documents--one of them from Argentina--which were all of a restricted nature.

It was added that the same afternoon these texts were, in effect, disclosed by Brasilia. The San Martin Palace source concluded by saying that we cannot agree with the remarks made yesterday by Itamaraty spokesman Luis Felipe Lampreia to the effect that Brazil had "advised with sufficient time" of its unilateral decision to disclose the documents.

VIDELA MEETS WITH VENEZUELAN DELEGATION

PY171254 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0730 GMT 17 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] Mar del Plata, 17 Feb (TELAM)--"I can tell you that it was a meeting of friends during which we discussed general subjects." This statement was made by the president of the nation, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla (ret), after receiving the Venezuelan good will mission at the Hotel Provincial in this city. The meeting lasted 2 hours and also included Foreign Minister Maj Gen Carlos Washington Pastor (ret), Secretary General of the Presidency Brig Gen Eduardo Crespi and Under Secretary for Institutional Relations Col Miguel Angel Mallea Gil.

The Foreign Minister reported that during the meeting they discussed matters of interest to both countries. The head of the Venezuelan delegation, Jose Zambrano Velasco, stated that President Videla responded in a cordial and grateful manner to the initiative to strengthen the economic and friendship ties existing between the two countries.

TROOPS CONTINUE TO RETURN FROM SOUTHERN BORDER

PY191352 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 19 Feb (TELAM)--The Argentine troops which were stationed in the southern region of the country to defend Argentine sovereignty continue to return to their barracks.

In Santiago del Estero

The troops of the 141st Batallion of combat engineers who returned from the southern region were welcomed at the local railroad station by Chief of the area 324 Lt Col Oscar Abalos. By the provincial governor and a crowd of friends and families of the soldiers.

In Rosario

The first troops of the 101st Batallion of combat engineers stationed in Villa Constitution returned to their base by railroad from the southern border.

REJECTION OF ARGENTINE PARANA DAMS PROPOSAL ANNOUNCED

PY201134 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0036 GMT 20 Feb 79 PY

[By Juan Javier Zeballos]

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Feb (LATIN)--Brazil today rejected the Argentine proposal to harmonize the hydroelectric plants on the Parana River, accusing Argentina of modifying and nullifying the text of an agreement signed with Paraguay and of ignoring what the agreement states with regard to the exercise of state sovereignty.

At the same time, it announced that it is withdrawing its agreement to the 105-meter waterhead for the Argentine-Paraguayan Corpus plant which Brazil was ready to accept as a "truly exceptional concession," since the normal waterhead at that stretch of the river should be about 95 meters, which "corresponds to 98.5 meters at the point of convergence of the three jurisdictions [trifinio]."

The Brazilian rejection was delivered to the Argentine Foreign Ministry today in a 16-page note, copies of which were given to the press this afternoon along with copies of the Argentine proposal and the text of the agreement signed by Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay in Rio de Janeiro in September 1978.

The Brazilian Government maintained that the Argentine proposal introduces "substantial modifications which not only nullify essential points on which a consensus had been reached," but also add "concepts which contradict the invariable position Brazil has maintained since the beginning of the task and which, in themselves, would justify Brazilian nonparticipation in the trilateral agreements."

The communique states that some of Argentina's suggestions "ignore the specific field of the exercise of state sovereignty or the joint action of the partners in each of the binational undertakings. They also undoubtedly manifest an intent to establish, for matters of this nature, undue trilateral treatment."

The Brazilian note denies that Argentina had only proposed a new factor concerning the flexibility of the Corpus waterhead in the text of the agreement signed in Rio de Janeiro to harmonize this dam and Itaipu, which is already under construction by Brazil and Paraguay. The communique adds that Argentina presented 34 suggestions, 23 of which represent substantial modifications and only 11 introduce format changes.

The Brazilian document enumerates in detail and principle points of the basic text of the Rio de Janeiro agreement which were modified by the Argentine proposal delivered to Brazil on 30 January.

The Brazilian reply considered "unnecessary and unacceptable" the geographic broadness which the Argentine note gives to some aspects of the talks by eliminating some important phrases or sentences from the Rio de Janeiro document. It adds that the modifications suggested by Argentina in the political and technical aspects of the Rio de Janeiro text "completely ignore its meaning and totally change the document as a whole."

It adds that "it is unacceptable" for Brazil to allow the Corpus dam height to be 110 meters because this would reduce Itaipu's power by approximately 1,370 mw. It makes clear that Brazil was willing to allow Corpus to be 10 meters higher than its normal height of 95 meters. It adds that this would be "a truly exceptional concession" which would balance the equation of "corpus' height versus flexibility of Itaipu's operation."

In its latest proposal, Argentina suggested that Corpus have a "reserve" 5 meters above the virtually agreed upon 105-meter height. The Brazilian note states that the Argentine note "has completely upset" the balance established in the Rio de Janeiro document on the Corpus height and Itaipu's operational flexibility.

It adds that as a result of the inversion of factors, there is no longer an advantage, but "a limit tion, a restriction." "The spirit of the Argentine proposals is aimed at changing the very essence of the agreement from Corpus' height versus Itaipu's operational flexibility to Corpus' height versus Itaipu's turbines," the Brazilian document added.

The Brazilian reply also includes a suggestion to Argentina on what an international negotiation ought to consist of. The Brazilian note states: "In negotiating any international agreement, it is always fundamental to take into account what is principal and what is accessory and what is the essence of understanding, of transaction--that is, those subjects about which mutual concessions are made to reach a point of equilibrium. These two aspects seemed to have been clearly defined in the negotiations which were being carried out."

The note adds that the changes proposed by Argentina would convert the Rio de Janeiro document "into a unilateral proposal which could have been presented at the initiation of the talks as the ideal position of one of the parties, but never at this advanced stage of the negotiations."

It notes that the Argentine suggestions did not take into account "the exceptional advantages which Brazil was willing to give Corpus by permitting its installed power to increase from 2,664 mw to 4,410 mw, an increase of 1,746 mw." This shows "that the basic notion and justification of the equation has been lost."

HEAVY WATER BEING PROCESSED FOR NUCLEAR USE

PA181515 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0324 GMT 18 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 17 Feb (EFE)--It was revealed here today that for the first time, Brazil is processing heavy water for nuclear use at the Brazilian Center of Physical Research. The announcement was made in Rio de Janeiro by Prof Sergio Porto of the National Nuclear Energy Commission.

Professor Porto said that the heavy water will provide new options for the development of nuclear centrals in Brazil, as in Argentina, Canada, Israel and India. Porto explained that the research group found a way to produce heavy water, separating light isotopes by exciting molecules with laser rays.

The scientist commented that the "production of heavy water on an industrial scale now depends on a political decision by the Brazilian Government."

AID GRANTED TO FLOOD-RAVAGED STATES

PY150150 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 14 Feb 79 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--The Economic Development Council has earmarked 1.5 billion cruzeiros for Minas Gerais, Espirito Santo and Rio de Janeiro, the three states most heavily affected by the floods. It has also decided to create a permanent fund to fight disasters.

ARMY IDENTIFIES, ARRESTS M-19 GUERRILLA LEADERS

PA202227 Paris AFP in Spanish 1609 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

[Excerpts[Bogota, 20 Feb (AFP)--The army announced here today that it had arrested two of the top leaders of the guerrilla group called the 19 April movement, M-19. It also announced that it had identified the leadership of the group.

Those arrested are Carlos Duplat Sanjuan and Ivan Marino Ospina Moron, alias "Felipe Gonzalez," the name of a Spanish socialist leader.

The army today revealed that the top leadership of the M-19, Colombia's most active and dangerous subversive group in the past 5 years, has been fully identified. They are former opposition congressman, doctor and newsman Carlos Toledo Plata, Carlos Duplat Sanjuan, Ivan Marino Ospina Moron, alias "Felipe Gonzalez," Jaime Bateman, alias "Pablo Garcia," and David or Abraham Fayat. Ospina Moron and Bateman emerged on 2 January when they signed an M-19 clandestine communique jointly with Toledo Plata. In another communique that appeared later, Toledo Plata confirmed that he was the top leader of the group.

Regarding Toledo Plata, military intelligence authorities reported that they have learned that he is hiding in Bogota, while it was established that Jaime Bateman, alias "Pablo Garcia," fled from Medellin in northwestern Columbia where he was the leader of the group.

ARMY DISMANTLES 'GIGANTIC' FARC OPERATION

PA202033 Paris AFP in Spanish 1620 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Bogota, 20 Feb (AFP)--The Colombian Army's counterguerrilla services dismantled a gigantic operation that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) was planning. The operation included the purchase of arms worth $1.5 million, it was revealed here today. The army, through a spokesman, reported that the pro-Soviet FARC, which operates mainly in Colombia's southwestern jungle areas, was also trying to open 10 guerrilla fronts throughout the country.

The guerrilla operation was discovered when the army arrested a FARC courier in a rural area near Fusagasuga, 80 km southwest of Bogota. The courier had in his possession documents containing FARC's subversive plans, which were to be carried out in the future.

The army communique released here today does not give any details regarding the type of operation that FARC was planning to carry out to purchase the arms, but it did disclose that these were going to be purchased with the money obtained from ransoms paid in kidnapings carried out in past years.

GUERRILLAS INVITED TO SURRENDER BY GOVERNMENT

PA172049 Paris AFP in Spanish 1740 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota, 17 Feb (AFP)--The Colombian Government today invited urban and rural guerrilla groups, both leftist and rightist, to surrender. Justice Minister Hugo Escobar Sierra, who promoted the security stature, said that if the guerrillas surrender "they will contribute to returning peace to all Colombians."

"I invite all guerrillas to reflect on the difficult situation in which they have placed themselves," he said. He added that the government will continue its struggle until it has dominated them. Escobar Sierra asserted that all Colombians, including the guerrillas, "should contribute to the progress of the country," emphasizing that this can be done only "within a peaceful Colombia."

TURBAY AYALA TO ENFORCE LAW; DENIES TORTURE CHARGES

PA181809 Paris AFP in Spanish 1624 GMT 18 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Girardot, Colombia, 18 Feb (AFP)--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay gave assurances here last night that he will enforce the law in Colombia and emphatically denied that the army had been torturing persons arrested on charges of subversion. The armed forces have been accused of violating human rights by torturing persons arrested on suspicion of subversion. The president said that the complaints about torture are part of a strategy designed to distract the country's attention from the seriousness of the crimes committed by those claiming to have been tortured.

Turbay made this statement after lawyers, 38 priests and international organizations had reported the alleged violation of human rights by the army. The charges against the armed forces have been made in the course of the military investigation into the activities of the 19 April urban guerrilla movement (M-19).

Turbay, who came to power in free elections, warned that he does not fear a loss of popularity as long as he consolidates the democracy that has been threatened by the extremist groups. However, he promised that the defense of the institutions will be carried out within the bounds of the law and the constitution. He added that "there is no torture in Colombia."

Reiterating that his government protects human rights, Turbay said that Colombia's primary need is for peace, tranquillity and law enforcement in all sectors. "No citizen can charge that there are special privileges for criminals in Colombia," the president said.

The Colombian president said that upon becoming chief of state on 7 August 1978 for a 4-year term, he resolved to return peace to Colombia. He said he would like to see citizens walk the streets without risk.

Regarding persons under arrest for subversion or kidnaping," the president said that "they are where they belong", answering to the courts with full legal guarantees."

"We will continue to work for peace," he said, noting that he hopes to continue to have popular support. "If in order to save Colombia, to strengthen its institutions and to achieve authentic democracy I have to risk all my prestige, it will be well risked," the president said.

"Everything that I am I owe to Colombia and the least I can give it in order to bring about complete peace is that prestige," he concluded.

Turbay has ordered charges of torture by the army to be investigated on more than one occasion, but in every case there has been no evidence. However, the complaints of torture are increasing every day.

CARTER, LOPEZ-PORTILLO ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

PA162326 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2241 GMT 16 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Feb (EFE)--Presidents Jimmy Carter and Jose Lopez-Portillo today issued an optimistic joint communique that stopped just short of announcing future sales of Mexican gas and oil to the United States. Released at the end of President Carter's 48-hour visit to Mexico, the document also refers to negotiations on commercial and political matters.

The communique states that Lopez-Portillo announced that the energy resources should be the wealth of mankind. Production, distribution and consumption must be conducted systematically and rationally. Carter, meanwhile, expressed interest in the idea and willingness to explore the topic. The Mexican chief of state stressed the need to develop alternate sources of energy.

Thus, both nations agreed on a cooperation plan in the energy field, "with strict observance of their respective national policies."

Referring to gas, Carter asked for the development of means to facilitate sales by the PEMEX state enterprise to purchasing firms. The Mexican Government, in turn, decided "to reevaluate the quantity of possible surpluses, taking into consideration the needs generated by the establishment of a national pipeline network." Within that perspective, the communique added, "the two presidents agreed that their government representatives would meet as soon as possible to discuss the best ways to facilitate decisions on these matters."

Furthermore, the chiefs of state "agreed to examine jointly the prospects of future sales of Mexican crude oil and byproducts to the United States."

Regarding the problem of Mexican illegal aliens in the United States, the document notes that it was discussed within the general context of economic and social relations between the two countries. "The two presidents promised to undertake close bilateral cooperation to find an integral, realistic and long-term solution that will respect the dignity and human rights of those workers while devoting due attention [respetara] to the many social, economic and development aspects of this problem," it added.

The two rulers agreed to maintain consultations on all aspects of immigration, "including the social and economic implications in the two countries."

Regarding trade, Carter and Lopez-Portillo expressed satisfaction "over the continued growth of their trade" and, on a broader scope, noted that multilateral trade negotiations will be successful only if the developing nations have equitable participation in their results.

They added that the future expansion of bilateral trade "will require a constant liberalization of the trade policies of the two countries" in line with each others needs.

Lopez-Portillo, the communique added, indicated that the U.S. general system of preference "contains serious limitations for its complete utilization" and he asked for measures to increase it. For his part, Carter noted that Mexican exports to the United States have increased.

Regarding political affairs, Lopez-Portillo and Carter decided to strengthen the mechanism of consultation between the two countries in order to give it "greater dynamism, cohesion and flexibility" and thus improve its operation.

After noting that the talks between the presidents were held in an atmosphere of "sincerity, friendship and mutual understanding," the communique stressed that they agreed to meet again next summer although no further details were given.

Regarding international affairs, the two presidents expressed their support for the United Nations and the OAS, and particularly the United Nations, which they considered "the best means to achieve a peaceful world with equity and justice." They also emphasized their desire to strengthen international groups involved in the protection of human rights, particularly mentioning the work of the Inter-American Commission.

MEXICO, UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS PETROLEUM POLICIES

PA162141 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2028 GMT 16 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Feb (LATIN)--Mexico and the United States have agreed to resume talks at the government level to define principles regulating future sales of petroleum and natural gas to the United States, President Lopez-Portillo said today. During a press conference held at the airport following President Jimmy Carter's departure at the end of a 3-day visit to this country, the Mexican president said that the government-level talks will establish the bases for negotiations between petroleum companies of the two countries.

A year ago the Carter administration aroused the ire of the Mexicans when he vetoed a purchase of Mexican natural gas, claiming that the price was too high. No commercial dealings on the matter have been held since that time.

Lopez-Portillo said that the decision to resume the talks was the most important result of President Carter's visit regarding energy. He said he had explained to President Carter the constitutional, emotional and symbolic importance that petroleum has for Mexicans. Mexican Petroleum was nationalized in 1938. He also emphasized that for Mexico an increase in production is not merely a matter of opening valves, as in some Arab countries. In our case, he said, it would require investments in time, planning and funds.

Lopez-Portillo said that the favorable prospects for Mexican petroleum and natural gas during the coming years open the doors toward a just and balanced commercial relationship adjusted to the needs of the two countries without hasty decisions.

A high-ranking White House official said that if trade relations are maintained within the outlines established in the government-level talks, the private sector can be sure that it will have the approval of the Energy Department on any agreement reached.

The Mexican president also said he had emphasized to his colleague that it was impossible to commit his country under terms that would go beyond his mandate, which ends in 1982. He also said that Mexico will propose a world conference on energy in order to draft structures for production, distribution, consumption, financing and technological transfer.

COSTA RICA

ENERGY CRISIS LEADS TO STATE OF EMERGENCY DECREE

PA171744 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[Text] The president of the republic has sent for publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE a decree declaring a state of emergency throughout the country because of the energy crisis, Max Cover Van Patten, Costa Rican Chamber of Industry president, reported. He added that a special committee has already been appointed to study the problem and to find some solutions. Cover Van Patten explained that the rationing of electric power will be carried out on consecutive days instead of on alternate days, as had been previously planned. This will not affect the 5-day work week, he pointed out, indicating that the rationing will in no way lead to violations of the labor law. Cover Van Patten also said that the central bank will provide financing to companies interested in purchasing their own electric plants, especially those that have two work shifts. Cover Van Patten said that fuel will not be rationed because of the energy crisis. This would only lead to a drop in production, a delay of exports and an alteration of work schedules, he said. Besides, he added, industry is only consuming 18 percent of the country's electric power output.

Meanwhile, Tropigas company President Jose Maria Castro said that his company is in a position to supply cooking gas to meet the nation's demand and that people should not worry because there will be no shortage of gas. On the other hand, the government has assured that the gas industry will not be affected by the electric power rationing.

BANANA WORKERS TO RESUME WORK IN SOUTHERN REGION

PA200219 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Feb 79 PA

["Text" of presidential communique on banana conflict in southern area--read by Presidency Minister Jose Rafael Cordero Creseri]

[Text] The government's decision drafted by mediator Hector Belagame Soto, who was appointed to this post by President Rodrigo Carazo, has the full backing of the executive branch. The decision was revealed to representatives of the Costa Rican Banana Company, which has promised to respond in the near future. It is believed that work will be resumed completely tomorrow, Tuesday, ending the strike that paralyzed work in this region. Under these conditions that [words indistinct] the government regarding the situation that means the end of the banana strike in the region.

NICARAGUAN GUARDSMEN DIE IN CLASH WITH SANDINISTS

PA192039 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Feb 79 PA

[Text] The struggle in Nicaragua continues. Heavy fighting was reported yesterday near Penas Blancas. Unofficial reports indicate that 15 National Guardsmen died. A Sandinist attack occurred in the town of El Camibar, near the Costa Rican border, leaving a toll of four dead and one wounded. The Nicaraguan Government has not stopped assailing the Costa Rican Government, accusing Costa Rica of being a sanctuary for the guerrilla movement. Heavy fighting occurred at 1700 yesterday in an area near Penas Blancas inside Nicaraguan territory. According to unofficial reports, the National Guard sustained 15 casualties. [as heard]

The uncertainty continues in border towns. Many persons have fled El Camibar, a Nicaraguan town near across the border from Upala, and have taken refuge in our country. The population near the Nicaraguan border experiences dramatic moments daily in view of the clashes between the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the National Guard. Public Security Vice Minister Enrique Montealegre has said that the border area is being guarded. He said that no clashes have taken place on our soil and that no shots are being fired from Costa Rica, as Somoza's government asserts.

NICARAGUA

VIOLENT SITUATION CONTINUES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PA180337 Paris AFP in Spanish 2226 GMT 17 Feb 79 PA

[By Horacio Ruiz]

[Text] Managua, 17 Feb (AFP)--Violence continues to be a daily occurrence in Nicaragua while President Anastasio Somoza works to maintain an image of normality. Observers believe that the army has begun to show signs that it is tired of the war. In addition, the Sandinist Front today announced the intensification of its offensive. Meanwhile, President Somoza today participated in two inaugurations of government projects without officially commenting on the increasing wave of violence.

In a significant event, the Cabinet hosted a luncheon honoring Lt Col Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, the president's oldest son who became a colonel at 27 on his father's orders. The opposition press interpreted the event as an indication that Somoza not only refuses to leave power but is bent on bequeathing it to his son. Worsening the situation, the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) today issued a clandestine communique announcing an offensive that will be greater than the one in September, with better tactics and more effective weapons. Nicaragua's frightened population is waiting for major Sandinist operations on 21 February, the 45th anniversary of the execution of Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino by order of Gen Anastasio Somoza Garcia, father of the current president. In its communique the FSLN condemned to death the country's main army chiefs, including Lt Col Anastasio Somoza Portocarrero, director of the infantry training school, accusing him of slaughtering the people of Leon during the September 1978 offensive. Other important military officers condemned to death by the FSLN include Gen Armando Fernandez, chief of staff, and Gen Orlando Zeledon, chief of the air force.

Lt Col Guillermo Mendieta, dishonorably discharged recently for publicly asking the Somoza family to return autonomy to the army, today reiterated his call "for the immediate resignation" of the president as a way of saving Nicaragua. Mendieta said that Nicaragua's professional soldiers have the right to a life not subordinate to the paternalism of the Somoza family, which considers them a private army. Mendieta also said that the soldiers "are threatened with execution" if Sandinism is successful. Meanwhile, the political opposition remains firm through the Broad Opposition Front and the Patriotic Front, organizations which include all of the opposition factions. Nevertheless, Somoza does not seem to be willing to yield an inch in his position and is ready to continue ruling Nicaragua until 1981 and to stay in the country with his family. So far, he has increased the armed forces from 7,500 to 12,000 men. The bloodshed has continued during the past 16 months and there are no prospects for peace. Since the beginning of the struggle, the country's economy has been seriously affected. This is sure to worsen with the suspension of U.S. aid announced a few days ago. The people are afraid to go out in the streets and the schools have practically not operated this year. Among Nicaraguans, a saying that has gained in popularity is that "one can be killed anywhere when one least expects it."

GRANMA EDITORIAL CONDEMNS CHINESE ATTACK ON VIETNAM

FL191302 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Feb 79 FL

[Text] The newspaper GRANMA, which is the PCC's main organ, has published an editorial on the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. The paper states that the Chinese leadership, following their policy of hostile and aggressive incursions into the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, has launched an attack with numerous infantry, armored and artillery divisions with air force support. The editorial calls this aggression against the Vietnamese people perfidious, sneaky and cowardly and points out the danger of this Chinese adventure to peace and security in Southeast Asia and the whole world.

GRANMA compares this Chinese maneuver with Hitler's bellicose machinations 40 years ago against Poland. In a call to his soldiers and officers, Hitler stated that Poland did not want to continue respecting Germany's borders, and that to end these senseless actions, he saw no other means than to answer force with force. The editorial adds that the Chinese rulers have used this same shameless and cynical Nazi lie in trying to justify to world public opinion its aggressive incursions into Vietnam. After pointing out that Nazi aggression against Poland was encouraged by imperialist circles, the paper refers to the marriage between the most reactionary imperialist circles and the Chinese rulers--proponents of the inevitability of war.

Just as yesterday in the Nazi war and today in the Chinese aggression against Vietnam, the imperialists are hopeful of a halt to Soviet progress and an end to socialism.

As Fidel stated at the event commemorating the 20th anniversary of the triumph of the revolution on 1 January, today the West is trying to repeat with China the sinister adventure of Hitler's Germany against the Soviet Union. The GRANMA editorial states that in Vietnam the Chinese invaders have found a popular regime that is socialist, an army that is the people themselves and a policy that calls for closing ranks in defense of the country and for the cause of peace in Southeast Asia and the whole world. It adds that in the present situation, the U.S. Government has made a cynical statement in which it is obliged to recognize Chinese aggression against Vietnam while at the same time associating with the aggressors' policies. The U.S. policies on this question, according to what was disclosed by the New York TIMES are: Nonintervention, encouraging the parties to show moderation and preventing an expansion of the conflict with the Soviet Union and obtaining the immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea and Chinese forces from Vietnam. They also believe that normalization of realtions between China and the United States is a consummated fact which cannot be impugned by Chinese intervention in Vietnam.

Some of these principles have unique similarity to those which were applied 40 years ago by some capitalist governments with regards to the aggression launched by Nazi Germany. History has shown that this policy of nonintervention and neutrality was basically directed at simulating fascist aggression. The GRANMA editorial adds that the war against Vietnam that is occurring at the border and the brazen occupation of Vietnamese territory uncovers the expansionistic and hegemonistic ambitions of the Beijing rulers. It adds that it must be demanded that China unconditionally withdraw its claws from Vietnam.

Another part [of the editorial] states that at this hour Vietnam is not alone. As yesterday in its heroic and exemplary confrontation with the criminal Yankee imperialist aggression, mankind is with Vietnam now. GRANMA also refers to the firm position of the Soviet Union, which resolutely supports the Vietnamese people.

And it concludes: Cuba once more in this critical hour ratifies what has always been its firm and unswerving decision--we are willing to even give our own blood to Vietnam.

[Havana Domestic Service at 1200 GMT carries a similar report on the GRANMA editorial, stating that the editorial "appears in today's edition of the GRANMA paper."]

WORKERS, MASS ORGANIZATIONS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR SRV

FL192303 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Feb 79 FL

[Text] (Trau Huu Sui), Political counselor of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV], has told more than 200 workers of the Claudio Arguelles Camejo "Giron 11" bus factory in our capital that the arrogance of the Chinese aggressors will be punished. The workers were involved in a militant meeting in front of the Vietnamese Embassy to condemn the Chinese aggression against that country. (Sui) added that although it was easy for the enemy to enter Vietnam because of the geographic location of the border with China, the Chinese will find it very difficult to return [to China].

After recalling the Vietnamese people's victories against the powers that have entered Vietnam or have tried to enslave it, the diplomatic official pointed out that Vietnam loves peace, but it will not permit a single inch of its territory to be occupied. He also stressed the close and long friendship between his country and Cuba.

In addition to the activity of the Giron 11 factory workers in repudiation of the Chinese aggression, the workers of the Jose Marti iron and steel enterprise--formerly Antillana de Acero--in El Cotorro also expressed their condemnation of the criminal aggression and expressed their solidarity with the fraternal Vietnamese people. Ezequiel Amado, secretary general of the Trade Union Bureau at this enterprise, made the closing remarks and referred to the solidarity of the workers and all of Cuba with the Vietnamese people.

Various activities of repudiation and condemnation of the criminal aggression by the Chinese regime against the fraternal SRV also have taken place in various cities of this country. There have been such activities in Ciego de Avila and Cienfuegos. Meetings to condemn the aggression and express solidarity with the Vietnamese people have taken place in all work places in Ciego de Avila Province. Militant activities of condemnation of the disgusting Chinese aggression against Vietnam were conducted in work places, schools and in the rank-and-file agencies of mass organizstions in Cienfuegos Province.

Movement for Peace Statement

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[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples (MPSP) today condemned the serious events that have been taking place in Southeast Asia. It added that it gives unrestricted support to the pronouncements contained in the messages of Vietnamese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh to the United Nations on 10 February of this year. The MPSP condemns the Chinese military invaders for being aggressive, warmongers and assassins and [condemns] their leaders, who are in power as a result of methods identified with fascism. Lastly, the Cuban movement considers the aggressive actions of the Beijing leadership against Vietnam to be a direct aggression against all the world's forces that love peace and social progress. Therefore, these forces are justified in paralyzing the assassin's hands of the criminals who hold power in China.